The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WHOLE NO. 1121. WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1932 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary VOL. 22, NO. 40.

Without labor nothing prospers.—Sophocles.

Thirty-Hour Week Without Wage Cuts Is A. F. of L. Slogan

Cincinnati Convention Declares That Employers' Persistent Introduction of Labor-Displacing Machinery, With Twelve Million Jobless Workers, Makes 6-Hour Day and 5-Day Week Necessary to Prevent Starvation in the Midst of Plenty.

Washington.—When the Cincinnati convention of the American Federation of Labor adopted the report of its Committee on Shorter Workday, it made the thirty-hour week without wage cuts the militant slogan of American organized labor.

The report, which was written by Edward J. Gainor, chairman of the Shorter Work-Day Committee and president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, gives a succinct presentation of the devastation which those who own and control industry have brought not only upon the American workers but upon all the entire population by a policy of machinery in industry which has created millions of unemployed and paralyzed our system of production and distribution of wealth.

In the language of the report: "All have lost. Unemployment has no beneficiaries."

The report points out that "we must master the machine and make it serve the public welfare."

With militant emphasis the report declares that the way to accomplish this mastery is to put the millions of jobless to work through the nation-wide application of the thirty-hour week, and with unanswerable logic asserts that the shorter hours must not be accompanied by wage cuts, but that, on the contrary, "wages should be steadily increased in keeping with the expansion of productive efficiency."

The Cincinnati convention's declaration for the six-hour day and five-day week should become the economic bible of every worker and all other patriotic citizens.

The full text of the declaration follows:

Your committee in submitting this report to the American Federation of Labor in convention assembled desires, with all the earnestness possible, to emphasize the overwhelming importance of an immediate reduction in the hours of labor as a condition absolutely essential to the restoration and maintenance of prosperity.

Let us make a fleeting survey of industrial, business and economic conditions generally as they now present themselves.

Three Years of Depression

For more than three years our country has been in the throes of a depression which in its intensity and ravaging effects surpasses all that have gone before. Moreover, candor compels the statement that there is little if any prospect of early relief, unless drastic reforms are invoked to balance production and consumption on a measurably equitable basis.

In addressing ourselves to the causes and correction of the pending economic dislocation in industry generally, we must marvel at the sheer absurdity of the whole situation.

Machine Efficiency Prostrates Business

In response to the efficiency impulse, and dating back many years, industry has centered its efforts on increasing production through machine refinements and improved means and methods, based primarily upon labor displacement and a reduction in labor costs, without any regard as to what effect this policy would have on consuming power or public welfare.

The short-sighted policy has brought about virtual business prostration until, in fact, conditions are now so serious as to warrant the declaration that an emergency exists that must be met and promptly answered by the entire Nation.

Problem of Plenty

This depression has come at a time when the productive agencies of our country, developed to the 'nth degree, have attained a capacity both actual and potential that can deluge every demand.

The problem that confronts us is, in fact, a problem of plenty.

The genius of man has solved and more than solved the problem of production.

Today, however, with this problem of surplus and the dispensing of surplus on the one hand, we find on the other some 12,000,000 workers in this country begging vainly for liberty to toil, while millions of others on part-time employment must, in addition thereto, suffer intolerable wage reductions.

Depression Costs Billions

During these same three years the total national production loss, variously estimated, has run from fifty billion to seventy-five billion dollars, due to the vicious circle of wage cuts, reduced consuming power, manifold curtailment of hours and widespread unemployment, until the material cost of the pending depression is now much greater than the World War. All have lost. Unemployment has no beneficiaries.

These conditions must not be permitted to longer continue

Millions Suffer Want

To admit that this problem cannot be solved in an orderly manner would be an indictment on American common sense. For millions to suffer the lash of adequate food, clothing and shelter and be denied work opportunities solely because of increased productive efficiency is the most weird defeat of our entire social system.

This must not happen.

We must withstand defeat and make it serve the public welfare.

Right to Work

With the conservation of economic health as our objective, this means that we must stress the right to work as a fundamental and shout aloud and proclaim that there is no hope for the return and maintenance of prosperity except on a basis of lessened labor hours and high and steadily advancing living standards.

Nation Should Co-operate

With these conditions before us, prompt action is imperative. We must make a definite recommendation, and it must offer a specific program. Grounding our recommendations on the work of economic truth, we should call upon the nation for co-operation in making our way o.. of this economic debacle which now weighs so heavily on all workers and indeed all the people.

With this purpose in mind, we therefore declare that economic health cannot be restored except through observing the principle of balance in our economic relationship.

Economic Balance Necessary

This means that there must be a balance achieved between the increase in productive efficiency and average labor hours so as to provide a wider and an adequate diffusion of work opportunities as well as to grant the workers larger leisure as a condition precedent to enhanced consuming power.

We also declare that the advance in wage rates should keep steadily step with expanding productive efficiency, not only as a matter of social justice and enlarged purchasing power, but also as indispensable to the future prosperity of the country.

There is no other way. If we are to measurably match production and consumption, wage rates must rise and the hours of labor be progressively lessened as the only answer to the machine era in which we have come.

No program of social or economic reform can hope to attain success that does not embrace this economic truth, as the cornerstone of its reasoning.

Reduce Hours, Raise Wages

Conditions that now confront us compel a great forward movement.

Labor hours must be reduced and wage rates maintained and increased, something vastly different from the spread-work movement with its pay reduction policy now urged in many quarters and which would defeat the very purpose it is predicated to serve.

Public sentiment has advanced to the point where it is being outspokenly and unequivocally recognized that a reduction in the average hours of labor must come as a result of the present unemployment.

The Democratic and Republican parties, in their recent national conventions' declarations, record themselves strongly in favor of reduced labor hours, and for reasons substantially the same as set forth in this report.

We approvingly direct your attention to the report of the executive council, where under the caption, "Our Outstanding Task," the extreme seriousness of the existing unemployment situation and its relation to average labor hours is presented for your consideration.

Employers Impose Long Work Week

We warmly commend the following declaration of the executive council as graphically portraying the present situation:

"The average work week in all industry in 1929 was about forty-nine hours. If the unemployed had been put to work there would have not been over forty-five hours a week for each worker. Trade-union standards averaged 44.8 hours a week at that time.

Since 1929 depression has forced still greater use of labor saving devices. The return of normal times could not provide work for forty-four hours' work a week for all now.

"The five-day forty-hour week and the six-hour day with a thirty-six hour week represent standards applicable to normal times and adaptable in the present emergency of this fall and winter, hours must be reduced even below this standard to provide work for the unemployed and prevent starvation."

6-Hour Day, 5-Day Week

The time has arrived when the American Federation of Labor must act vigorously and definitely declare itself in support of a sharp reduction in the work day and the work week. It must come. There is no other way.

In keeping with the thought of the time on this subject, we therefore recommend that this annual convention of record s itself in advocacy of and as proposing to the country the universal adoption, without delay, of the six-hour day and five-day work week.

No Wage Reductions

We further recommend, and for the unanswerable reasons hereinbefore stated, that such reduction in labor hours be maintained by us as a reduction in pay, but on the contrary wages should be maintained and gradually increased in keeping with the expansion of productive efficiency.

Labor's Paramount Purpose

We further recommend that this convention declare that this objective of the shorter work day and work week should be energetically pursued by us and that the officers of the American Federation of Labor be directed to spare no effort in giving purpose and direction to this program, and that they call upon the people generally to support thereof as the only means whereby the prosperity of our beloved country can be restored.

NATION LOOKS TO LABOR TO PUT JOBLESS TO WORK

William Green, Re-elected President of the A. F. of L., Asserts That Every Legitimate Power Will Be Used to Achieve Aims and Purposes Of the Organized Workers.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The annual convention of the American Federation of Labor re-elected William Green to the office of president of the Federation by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Green was nominated by John L. Lewis, delegate of the United Mine Workers of America and also president of that organization.

Pointing out that before his election to the office of President of the A. F. of L., eight years ago, Mr. Green had functioned as secretary-treasurer of the Mine Workers for a number of years, Mr. Lewis said:

Lewis Outlines Green's Services

"His services to his union, his services to the American Federation of Labor, and his services to the people of America as a citizen can not be set down in mere words—they are a monument to the perpetuity of the ideals of labor. His work in the field of governmental as the American Federation of Labor after it has passed that crucial labor conclusion, Samuel Gompers, and has conducted his office with the utmost fitness, with the greatest diplomacy, and under the most difficult conditions."

Unanimously Re-elected

At the conclusion of Mr. Lewis's speech the convention arose and cheered and greeted the nomination with prolonged applause.

Upon receiving the announcement by Temporary Chairman James Maloney, delegate of the Glass Bottle Blowers' Association of the United States and Canada, that he was unanimously re-elected to office, the president of the American Federation of Labor, Mr. Green said:

"I am deeply touched by this demonstration of your official approval of the humble efforts which I have endeavored to render the cause of labor and the Nation as a whole.

"It is difficult for me to find words with which to express my appreciation of the very fine tribute which the president of the United Mine Workers of America paid me in presenting my name to this convention, and the very kind and fine tribute which you have paid me by re-electing me to the position of president of the American Federation of Labor. I am deeply sensible of the great honor you have again bestowed upon me, and feel that it is very difficult for me to repay the debt I owe.

Confronted With Difficult Problems

"I am sure you will agree with me in this convention has served with a feeling of deep responsibility, because we realize the issues at stake through a great emergency. We face the future confronted with that trend and we go forward step by step we know that we shall meet with increasingly difficult problems and with overwhelming responsibility.

"It seems to me that the great American labor movement has a special service to render, that it occupies a place of responsibility such as it has never occupied before.

Work for Jobless Millions

"The Nation is looking to labor and the labor movement to assist it to help these millions of workers who are unemployed in this period of stress of our emergency, and it is our desire and purpose to render that service.

"Every ounce of energy we have, every effort we can put forth will be exercised in an endeavor to render intelligent, constructive service to the men and women who are idle and to the people of the Nation at large.

Militant Spirit Means Action

"At the same time I am fully conscious of our great difficulties, what a task it will be, how great the strain the demands that will be made upon you and upon me, but we must translate the militant spirit of this convention into action and find ways and means by which that translation can be brought about.

"My chief desire and my greatest ambition is to serve organized labor, to do all that lies within my power to promote the welfare of those whom we have the honor to represent.

Engaged in Holy Cause

"The demands made upon our strength and upon our minds and our intellects are indeed very great. It sometimes drives us almost to the point of despondency, but we are encouraged to continue because of the fact that we are engaged in a noble cause, in a great crusade for the men and women who are suffering so long and so patiently.

Labor's Aims Must Be Achieved

"It is our purpose to go out there and carry on as we have never carried on before. We shall mobilize the economic strength of the nation, apply the rule of reason, plead for co-operation and secure it wherever we can. But where such co-operation can not be had we will not be extended. It is our purpose to utilize every legitimate power at our command to achieve the aims and purposes of organized labor.

Labor and National Welfare

"I want to express to you my gratitude for the fine tribute you have paid me, for this manifestation of confidence and faith. Henceforth I am your servant as you have demonstrated it here this morning. I realize I have a great task before me. The first dealings with you with your service and God willing, we shall go forward and make this movement a real, vital, effective, militant force in the economic, social and political life of the Nation."

AFL CONVENTION ELECTS FRATERNAL DELEGATES

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The annual convention of the American Federation of Labor at its closing session elected as fraternal delegates to the British Trades Union Congress, and James C. Quinn, secretary of the Central Labor Union of New York city, as fraternal delegate to the 1933 session of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

MORRISON BEGINS 36TH YEAR AS AFL SECRETARY

Unanimously Re-elected by Cincinnati Convention—Tells Delegates of Progress Made Since 1896—Labor Movement Brings Happiness to Workers' Homes.

Cincinnati Ohio.—Frank Morrison was unanimously re-elected secretary of the American Federation of Labor by the annual convention of the Federation here.

Charles P. Howard delegate of the International Typographical Union and president of that organization, placed Mr. Morrison in nomination.

Pointing out that Mr. Morrison "first came to the American Federation from the International Typographical Union before many of us began service in the trade to which we have devoted our lives," Mr Howard said:

Howard Cites Morrison's Service

"Since 1896 this man has rendered service to this organization. It would be impossible with weak words to add to that record of service—a string of thirty-six jewels of which each year is one. It is a pleasure to present to this convention the name of Frank Morrison for secretary for the ensuing term."

The convention greeted the nomination of Mr. Morrison by arising and indulged in a prolonged applause.

Election Is Unanimous

When President Green announced that Mr. Morrison was unanimously re-elected, he said: "Your secretary of the A. F. of L. said:

"I want to express to you my sincere appreciation for your vote of confidence.

Growth of A. F. of L.

"It is true that in this great city, in 1896, I was elected Secretary of the American Federation of Labor when we had but 196,000 members.

"I remember I used to say that if I lived to see, as Secretary, a million members it would be a great satisfaction to me. But I watched the Federation grow from 256,000 to one million, two million, three million, and four million at its peak during the war, have watched it go from the top and fall, but when it fell I knew it would rise again to a still higher peak.

"This great labor movement will survive every test, because no power on earth can destroy an organization that has for its purpose the betterment of the conditions of the workers of the world.

Chicago Breadlines In 1893

"I recall in my early days in 1893 when we had bread lines and men sleeping in the public buildings of Chicago.

"It is but that such a condition should not exist, and I said I wanted to live to see the time when every effort was taken out of the hearts and minds of the men, women and children of our country that is the goal of the A. F. of L.

Pensions and Work Insurance

"It is gratifying to me that I have lived to see old-age pensions coming in augurated in the States and provinces of the United States and Canada.

"And it is also gratifying to me to find this splendid convention declaring very positively and very about in favor of under which we shall either have work or compulsory unemployment insurance to take away the last fear from the hearts of men, women and children.

Convention Inspiration

"This has been an unusual convention. It would be well for members of organized labor if they could read the proceedings, the ideals that were brought from across the water by our fraternal delegates, and the splendid speeches of the delegates advocating various reforms.

Happiness for the People

"I like to be patient because, no matter what rebuff a reform may receive, the seed is sown, and at some time there will emerge from this American Federation of Labor the legislation necessary to carry on this splendid labor movement and realize conditions which will bring more sunlight and happiness to the homes of the workers and the people of the United States and Canada.

"I want to thank you for your confidence, and I will say to you that I will give my utmost energy to carry on the work that has been marshalled on to promote the welfare of the workers of the American Federation of Labor."

1933 AFL CONVENTION MEETS IN WASHINGTON

Executive Council Says Memorial to Samuel Gompers Will Be Ready to Dedicate During the Convention.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The annual convention of the American Federation of Labor here selected Washington, D. C., as the place for holding the 1933 convention of the Federation.

The Samuel Gompers Memorial, which will be finished by October 1 of next year, will be dedicated during the convention.

The executive council of the A. F. of L. gave the following account of the Memorial in its report to the convention:

"The delay which has ensued in the completion and erection of the Samuel Gompers Memorial is directly traceable to several causes.

"First, it became necessary to secure the approval of the Commission of Fine Arts to a design. The first design submitted by a number of sculptors were rejected because they did not conform to the standards set by the Commission of Fine Arts. This action made it necessary to call for the submission of additional new plans and designs.

"Finally, a design was submitted by Robert Aitken, a sculptor in New York City, which was accepted by the Executive Council and approved by the Commission of Fine Arts. A contract was entered into with Mr. Aitken providing for the construction of the Memorial.

Robert Aitken advises the Executive Council that the Memorial will be completed and ready for dedication on the date mentioned in the contract, namely by October 1, 1933.

We plan formally to dedicate the Samuel Gompers Memorial at the earliest possible date following its completion and construction."

Secretary Frank Morrison reported that the total receipts for the Memorial Fund amounted to $158,065.82, with a balance on hand August 31, 1932, of $96,306.12.

A. F. of L. Convention Proceedings Summarized

The following topical summary of the declarations of the 1932 convention of the American Federation of Labor, held in Cincinnati, Ohio, Nov. 21 to Dec. 2, is compiled from the official daily text of the convention proceedings:

A.

Accidents, Industrial.—The convention favored the enactment of Federal legislation to require contractors engaged in the construction of buildings for the Federal Government to conform to the laws of the State in which they are operating relating to safety and prevention of accidents in the building industry.

Adult Education.—The convention endorsed the five-year program in adult education inaugurated in Des Moines, Iowa, under the auspices of the public school system with the cooperation of the Iowa State Federation of Labor, and recommended that the officers of the Federation submit reports of this experiment to the American Federation of Labor and the Workers Education Bureau of America.

American Federation of Government Employees.—The convention approved the action of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor in issuing a charter to the American Federation of Government Employees and urged affiliated organizations to give the Federation all possible encouragement and cooperation.

American Federation of Labor—Executive Council.—The convention disapproved a resolution increasing the number of members of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor from eight to twenty-five.

American Federation of Labor Legal Information Service.—The convention commended the work done by the Legal Information Service, stressed the importance of the court decisions on labor matters available through the bureau and urged that the publication of its bulletin be resumed as soon as possible.

American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service.—The convention approved the American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service as an effective agency furnishing to the labor press reliable news of interest to labor with a special reference to trade union matters. "At a time when accurate information as to the labor aspects of important proposals before our Nation is imperative," the convention declared, "this service is indispensable."

American Federationist.—The convention endorsed the American Federationist with a circulation of 70,000 as "an educational in social, industrial and economic problems and wing for the organized labor movement the respect of economists, scholars, and the general public."

Anti-Injunction Law.—The convention declared the enactment of the Norris-LaGuardia Anti-Injunction Law represents the "outstanding legislative achievement in the council of labor in the American Federation of Labor during the last session of Congress," commended Senators Norris and LaGuardia and Representative LaGuardia of New York for their leadership in support of the bill in the Senate and the House of Representatives, urged that similar anti-injunction laws be enacted by each of the State legislatures; and recommended that the Federation and its affiliated central bodies mobilize their efforts towards this end.

Anti-Trust Legislation.—The convention urged the modification of Federal anti-trust laws to whatever extent may be necessary to permit the operation of democratic practice in industry comparable to the democratic practice in politics so as to permit both labor unions and trade associations to function normally and in the best interests of industry and society.

Automatic Machinery — Taxation.—The convention referred to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor a proposal for the formulation of legislation to place a direct tax on all automatic machinery, the revenue therefrom to be used to pay benefits to the unemployed.

B.

Banks and Banking.—The convention referred to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor for action and support the legislation calling for the inauguration of a nation-wide campaign for the repeal of oppressive laws and the enactment of model safety provisions for savings banks and building and loan companies to be enacted into law by the legislatures of the various States to the end that savings banks and building and loan companies coming under State regulation may be made safe depositories for the savings of the people in the States in which they operate."

Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.—The convention endorsed and pledged support to the endeavor of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters to secure an injunction compelling the Pullman Company to abolish its so-called employes' representation plan.

C.

Canal Zone—Employes.—The convention opposed the application of the Economy Act of 1932 to civilian employes of the United States Government in the Panama Canal Zone, employes of the Panama Railroad, and instructed the officers of the American Federation of Labor to endeavor to have Congress enact a law allowing such employes the benefits of the pay restoration plan for the fiscal year 1932, as well as legislation making it applicable to employes in Panama Canal and Panama Railroad employes so as to permit reemployment of those who have had thirty years of service have been rendered.

Calumet Waterways.—The convention referred to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor a resolution endorsing the utilization of the Calumet Waterways as a part of the proposed Lakes-to-the-Gulf Waterways.

Central Labor Unions.—The convention recommended that organizers of the American Federation of Labor and officers and members of central labor unions use every effort to build up the membership of the unions and stress the importance of confining patronage to union made goods.

Chain Stores.—The convention declared that the growth of chain stores has been at the expense of the people, is one of the causes of the business depression, and that the laboring classes derive no benefit from them.

Chain Stores—Employes.—The convention directed the executive officers and organizers of the American Federation of Labor to assist in organizing the employes of all chain stores and declared that the A. F. of L. should interest itself in bettering their future.

Chicago—Employes.—The convention adopted a resolution declaring that the American Federation of Labor was back upon the Government and the banks of the country, the employers existing there under which public employes of the city, including school teachers, have not been paid a large part of the salaries due them for services performed during the last 18 months.

Child Labor.—The convention condemned the continued wholesale employment of children, its gainful occupations, urged increased nation-wide efforts by organized labor to secure the adoption of the proposed amendment to the Federal Constitution by the legislatures of not less than three-fourths of the coming sessions of State legislatures include the ratification of the amendment

Child Labor—Hours.—The convention instructed the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to investigate the possibility of legislation authorizing the use of the Webb-Kenyon law to secure a shorter work week for children.

Civilian Conservation Corps.—The convention declared that the American Federation of Labor will continue its efforts to see that the standards agreed upon and accepted by economy measures and urged increased funds for local welfare bureaus and centers, recreational centers, child health clinics, child guidance clinics and nutrition centers to meet the increasing demand for child protection. It urged the cooperation of State Federations of Labor, city central bodies and local unions to continue their activity in support of these institutions.

Citizens of the United States Residing Abroad.—The convention referred to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor a proposal for Federal legislation designed to give all American citizens residing in foreign countries, except diplomatic representatives, the same protection from the United States Government either for themselves or their families within the jurisdiction of other nations.

Communism.—The convention reaffirmed its opposition to Communism, urged trade unionists to give no aid to Communist organizations or to cam-Communist organizations, declared that Communist organizations or by organizations allied with the Communist International through interlocking directorates or similar devices, and declared against the recognition by the United States of Soviet Socialist Republics by the Government of the United States.

Company Union.—The convention endorsed and pledged support to the endeavor of the Pullman Porters in its endeavor to secure an injunction compelling the Pullman Company to abolish its so-called employes' representation plan.

Convict School Attendance.—The convention reiterated its demand for compulsory full time education of children to the age of 16 and part-time education to the age of 18, with adequate machinery for enforcement.

Convict Labor.—The convention endorsed the work of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor in forwarding the enactment of State laws to bring prison-made goods shipped from one State into another under the jurisdiction of the State into which they are shipped.

Convict Labor—Lorton (Va.) Reformatory.—The convention condemned the employment of convicts on work of skilled labor at the Lorton (Va.) Reformatory, operated by the District of Columbia, and requested the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to call the attention of the Department of the Federation to prevent any extension of the employment of convicts at the Reformatory requiring skilled labor.

Corporations—Finance.—The convention referred to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor a proposal for legislation to regulate and restrict capitalization of corporations that stock may represent only the investment of cash and the products of labor.

Credit.—The convention referred to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor for study and action a resolution calling for the creation through Government control of banking and credit so can the manipulation of our financial resources of private ends be terminated.

E.

Eight-Hour Day for Fire Fighters.—The convention declared in favor of the eight-hour day with one day off in seven and called upon all the United States and Canada, instructed State federations of labor and city central bodies to actively assist the International Association of Fire Fighters in their States and in any campaign it may make for the eight-hour day and called upon all trade unionists to oppose the adoption of the eight-hour day for fire fighters as in keeping with labor's ideals and in opposition to the interests of the employed.

Eighteenth Amendment.—The convention endorsed the repeal of the eighteenth amendment as rapidly as that can be brought about.

Employes' Representation in Management.—The convention endorsed and pledged support the endeavor of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters to secure an injunction compelling the Pullman Company to abolish its so-called employes' representation plan.

F.

Federal Economy Law.—The convention instructed the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to give all possible assistance to the affiliated organizations of Government employes in their efforts to secure the repeal of the Economy Law enacted by the Seventy-first Congress and to correct retroactively the injustices which the law and administrative rulings have caused.

Federal Employes—Retirement.—The convention favored a voluntary retirement of Federal employes after thirty years of service regardless of age.

Federal License Law for Business Concerns.—The convention requested the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to have in hand a study made of the problems involved in a Federal license law for business concerns with suitable provisions for establishing the right of labor to organize into trade unions and choose its representatives free from interference on the part of the employers, and protecting the workers from evils like the injunction in labor disputes and the yellow dog contract.

Federal Tax on Electrical Energy.—The convention referred to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor for investigation a resolution asking the repeal of section 614 of the Revenue Act of 1932 placing a tax of 3 per cent on the sale of electrical energy be amended so as to exempt municipal Territories, and their political subdivisions from the provisions of this Act.

Federation of Women's Trade Union Auxiliaries.—The convention disapproved the action of the Federation in the right to be represented in A. F. of L. conventions and by a fraternal delegate and referred the matter to the executive council of the A. F. of L. for further investigation.

Fire Fighters—Wages.—The convention pledged its support to the International Association of Fire Fighters in its efforts to prevent the lowering of salaries and the reduction of the number of firemen in the United States and Canada.

Fire Prevention.—The convention endorsed the educational campaigns of Fire Prevention Week promoted in the United States and Canada by the National Fire Protection Association and recommended that the parade should be utilized to inaugurate in all cities a continuous fire prevention movement.

Five-Day Week.—The convention reaffirmed that it is the paramount purpose of the American Federation of Labor to secure the five-day week and six-hour day, without wage cuts, for all workers.

Five-Day Week and Six-Hour Day by Federal Constitution Amendment.—The convention endorsed the proposal for securing an amendment to the Federal Constitution limiting working days to five in each week and working hours to six per day.

Five-hour Week.—The convention commended as meriting the support of the Federation the bill of Rep. Lee Mercantile Company for having adopted the five-day, forty-hour week without reduction in wages, as well as the action of other persons and concerns operating under union shop conditions.

Food Department in the American Federation of Labor.—The convention favored the creation of a Food Department in the American Federation of Labor.

Free Federation of Working Men of Puerto Rico.—The convention approved the action of the executive council of Free Federation of Working Men of Puerto Rico in dealing with problems of labor and in the work of building a worthwhile association and unification of the people of Puerto Rico and with the people of the United States."

Friendly Society of Engravers.—The convention declared that the executive council of the American Federation of Labor should endeavor to bring about the issuance of an international charter to those now constituting the Friendly Society of Engravers.

Fraternal Delegates.—As a token of their appreciation, the delegates and officers of the convention presented a handsome gavel inscribed "Labor" with chain and knife attached to Charles Dukes and W. Holmes, fraternal delegates to the British Trades Union Congress, and W. V. Turnbull, fraternal delegate to the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

The convention also presented wrist watches to Messrs. Dukes, Holmes, and Mrs. Turnbull.

G.

Gompers Memorial.—The convention congratulated the executive council of the American Federation of Labor for the progress made in the Samuel Gompers Memorial to be erected in Washington, D. C., and instructed that it be ready for dedication in October, 1933, as an epoch in the history of the labor movement.

Government Boards and Executive Expenditures.—The convention declared that the increased costs of Government boards and executive expenditures are injurious to the Nation, and asserted that "propaganda" from those who want to curtail personal tax payments by restriction of Government work, curtailment of Federal appropriations, salary cuts for Government workers, should not be allowed to stampede legislators into uneconomic curtailment of work and neglect of fundamental purposes for which our Government was created."

Government Employes.—The convention endorsed the action of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor in its efforts to prevent the enactment during the last session of Congress of the provisions of the so-called economy law imposing pay reductions on Government employes, and urged the council to strengthen its efforts to secure the repeal of this measure.

Government Employes—Finger Print Identification.—The convention declared its opposition to the rule of the U. S. Civil Service Commission requiring that applicants for positions in the Civil Service to be finger printed as well as the Congressional proposal to finger print those already in the service, and instructed the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to endeavor to have this practice discontinued.

Government Employes — Personnel Classification.—The convention declared that personnel classification procedure should be extended to the field service, preferably by a joint resolution of Congress, and instructed that the Personnel Classification Agency make a review of the allocation of field positions with power to change allocations without reference to the department having jurisdiction. The convention directed the executive council of the American Federation of Labor, in conjunction with the executive officers of the American Federation of Government Employes to make a study of classifications now in effect, as well as

(Continued on Page Two)

TWO PAGES

This issue of the American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service consists of two pages.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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The American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service was authorized by the 1926 Convention of the American Federation of Labor.

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A. F. OF L. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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A. F. of L. Building, Washington, D. C.

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A. F. of L. Convention Proceedings

This issue of the American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service is largely devoted to a tabloid record of the actions taken by the fifty-second annual convention of the American Federation of Labor.

The tabloids do not make as brilliant a picture as colorful news articles, but the number of the subjects considered by the convention provides more extensive treatment.

GREEN SPIKES TALK OF CABINET PLACE

A. F. of L. President Declares He Will Follow Gompers Precedent of Refusing Political Office.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, will not accept the position of Secretary of Labor in President-elect Roosevelt's cabinet.

Mr. Green made this clear in a brief talk to the delegates attending the annual convention of the Federation here at the close of the last day's session. He said:

"I take advantage of this opportunity to answer publicly a question that has been repeatedly asked me.

"I have been asked on numerous occasions whether or not I intended to accept any political appointment. I want to answer now that under no circumstances will I accept political appointment or political preferment.

Gompers Set Precedent

"My distinguished predecessor, the great Samuel Gompers, in my judgment, set a precedent that Presidents of the American Federation of Labor, myself included, whoever may be selected, should uphold and follow.

"During the tenure of office he was asked to accept appointment to certain political positions, and it was said he replied: 'I am President of the American Federation of Labor. No greater honor can be conferred upon me, I therefore decline to consider it.'

"I am endeavoring to follow that same policy.

"I recognize that men in our movement may be perfect right for appointments that carry with them great honor, and we approve such appointments, but in my judgment the president of the American Federation of Labor occupies a position of trust and confidence that he must respect and appreciate.

"It occurs to me that the men and women of labor should always understand that when they select a president they have a perfect right to remove him at will, but the President has no right to leave them by accepting political preferment.

Seeks Harmony and Co-operation

"We have been here as actors upon the stage, the stage of this convention, but I am sure we realize that we are all moved forward in the great current of life, carrying us on its current like chips to the inevitable end—that is, the end of life.

"Some day new actors will come. They will take their places upon this stage and will play their part. Some time in the future that inevitable end, when the lights will grow dim and the voices of the singers will be low, when the golden bowl will be broken and the pitcher will be broken at the fountain, when we will go out to see, seeing, as I hope, our Pilot, face to face.

"Let it be with the consciousness that our lives have been well spent and our work has been well done.

"I covet harmony and co-operation. Let us practice and emphasize the principles of fraternity and brotherhood. Let us demand a united army in the cause of labor for the realization of our ideals."

A. F. OF L. RE-ELECTS ALL OF ITS OFFICIALS

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The annual convention of the American Federation of Labor has re-elected William Green, president, Frank Morrison, secretary, Martin F. Ryan, treasurer, and the following vice presidents:

First vice president, Frank Duffy, general secretary of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

Second vice president, T. A. Rickert, president of the United Garment Workers of America.

Third vice president, Matthew Woll, first vice president of the International Photo Engravers' Union of North America.

Fourth vice president, James Wilson, general president of the Pattern Makers' League of North America.

Fifth vice president, John Coefield, general president of the United Association of Plumbers and Steam Fitters of the United States and Canada.

Sixth vice president, Arthur O. Wharton, international president of the International Association of Machinists.

Seventh vice president, Joseph N. Weber, president of the American Federation of Musicians.

Eighth vice president, G. M. Bugniazet, secretary of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

The president, the secretary, the treasurer, and the eight vice presidents constitute the executive council of the American Federation of Labor.

President Green was secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers of America up to the time when he was elected chief administrative officer of the A. F. of L. in 1924.

Secretary Morrison is a member of the Chicago local of the International Typographical Union.

Treasurer Ryan is president of the Brotherhood Railway Carmen of America.

HOLMES RECOMMENDS LAND NATIONALIZATION

Trades Union Fraternal Delegate to A. F. of L. Convention Says British Farm Workers Want Agriculture Socially Organized with Labor Representation.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—"It is a strange irony that those upon whose labor the whole of our civilization rests always receive the worst wages, the worst houses, the worst conditions of employment that are to be found anywhere in the civilized world," declared Mr. W. Holmes, general secretary of the Union of Agricultural Workers of Great Britain and one of the fraternal delegates from the British Trades Union Congress to the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor, in an address before the convention.

"The present producers of the primary needs of the people, both farmers and workers, nearly everywhere," he continued, "are still subject to price levels that will not yield a fair return to those who expend their capital and labor in the production of the food supplies of the people.

Low Wages for Food Producers

"Agriculturists nearly everywhere are subject to the hazards of nature, have inadequate returns to those who gamble and speculate in these food products, but less than a living wage and poor conditions to those who produce the food.

Mr. Holmes gave the convention an intensely interesting account of the struggle of the British workers for better hours, higher wages, and better working conditions generally since the establishment of the National Union of Agricultural Workers in 1906.

Political Action Necessary

Strike followed strike, but the organized strength of the employing farmers was so great, Mr. Holmes said, that the union had to turn to political action to supplement their economic strength.

"We had to take up political action," he explained, "because the masters used the political machine against us on every occasion. In a little agricultural strike of twenty years ago our police men paraded our villages and terrorized our men when they went out on strike and protected blacklegs.

"Even the magistrates in our courts fined our men heavily and sent them to prison merely because they spoke to blacklegs and asked them to desist from preventing the agricultural workers from getting a miserable wage of 14 shillings a week.

"Therefore we had to go to politics to get a minimum wage bill, and we were in the House of Commons, the Labor Government a legal fixation of wages with trade union recognition on the committees. Through these committees we have been able to steadily advance wages and reduce hours."

Jobless Insurance for Farm Workers

Mr. Holmes said that in addition to demanding higher wages and shorter hours, the union insists on amending the unemployment insurance law so as to include farm workers, who were originally excluded from the law and have never been entitled to unemployment benefits.

Nationalization of Land Demanded

On the general solution of the problem of unemployment, Mr. Holmes said:

"What is needed in agriculture is organization and control. Individualism in agriculture is finished. We have laid down our basis for an agricultural policy, first of all upon the nationalization of our land to the people of our land. We say the people are poor because they are robbed, and they are robbed because they are poor. The land of England has been stolen from the people.

"We call for nationalization of the land," Mr. Holmes concluded. "Some call it Socialism, but we don't mind being called Socialists, it doesn't worry us a bit.

"We are out for nationalization of the land, the organization of our agriculture socially with labor representation on the organized workers on every commission that deals with the problem of agriculture. We ask, as we have introduced men in our agricultural union who are competent to take any position of trust and character."

(Continued from Page One)

proposed classifications, and compile a classification plan that embraces all activities, both departmental and field, exclusive of those trades whose wages are or should be fixed by wage boards, or such class or crafts as do not desire it; the convention urged the council to give thoughtful consideration to having labor represented on the Board of Classification Board, with the proviso that in all appeals the employee, if they so elect, may be represented by agents of their own choosing, and that, in addition to the officers of the various departments of Government Employes, the representatives of other affiliated organizations affected by classification be called in conference regarding the proposed study.

Government Ownership of Banking Institutions.—The convention referred to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor a resolution favoring the Government ownership of all banking institutions.

Government Employes—Working Conditions.—The convention instructed the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to continue its cooperation with the Government employes' and Government employes to secure remedial legislation designed to improve working conditions in Government employment, relating particularly to the restoration, extension and liberalization of sick and vacation leaves; the elimination of objectionable and repugnant practices; improvements in the retirement law with special reference to thirty-year ordinary retirement; the reduction of night work requirements; the establishment of a Federal Employes' Compensation court of appeals; the improvement of postal substitute employes' and village letter carriers' working conditions and wages; and the adoption of the shorter work week principle and the increase in wages as established prior to the enactment of the economy law.

Green, Williams.—The convention instructed the officials of the American Federation of Labor to print in pamphlet form and give the widest possible publicity to the speech on the thirty-hour week which William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, made before the convention.

H.

Holding Companies.—The convention referred to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor a resolution calling for legislation to prohibit holding companies.

Hotel and Restaurant Employes and Bartenders' International Alliance Union.—The convention endorsed the efforts of the Alliance to organize employes of hotels and restaurants. Agreements within the jurisdiction of the Alliance, urged affiliated organizations to patronize only establishments that are fair to organized labor and employ members of the Alliance, and instructed the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to inform all of its affiliated unions that the Alliance has jurisdiction over culinary workers employed in hotels and restaurants of all kinds and urge their cooperation in organizing these workers.

I.

Immigration.—The convention reiterated its position favoring the prevention as far as possible of all immigration, approved the Johnson bill for improvement to the immigration law placing musicians under contract labor provisions, and recommended continued efforts to secure the enactment of the King bill providing for the exclusion of alien seamen.

Independent Labor Party.—The convention disapproved a resolution favoring the formation of an independent labor party, and reaffirmed its stand that the American Federation of Labor "abandon the traditional non-partisan political policy and organize a non-partisan labor party."

Instalment Plan.—The convention referred to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor a resolution calling for a declaration against instalment buying.

International Association of Fire Fighters.—The convention instructed the American Federation of Labor organizers to assist in every way possible in organizing the International Association of Fire Fighters in organizing paid fire departments membership in the United States and Canada into unions affiliated with the Fire Fighters.

International Conference on Shorter Workday.—The convention favored the appointment by the representatives of the American labor movement on the delegation of the United States Government to the International Technical conference on the Shorter Workday, called by the International Labor Office to meet at Geneva, Switzerland, in January, 1933, and directed the officers and executive council of the American Federation of Labor to use their influence to secure such representation. The convention added the proviso that by the labor representation on the delegation neither the A. F. of L. nor the International nor the A. F. of L. is committed to the conference being held or to any action in any way with the International Labor Office.

International Labor Office.—The convention referred to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor a resolution requesting the United States Government to maintain a permanent attache or representative of the U. S. Department of Labor at the International Labor Office, Geneva, Switzerland, to carry on active cooperation with the International Labor Office.

J.

Job Security.—As means of promoting the economic security of the workers, his right to a job—the convention recommended the creation of State employment services under Federal coordination; the organization of wage earners in trade unions for the protection of their interests industrially and otherwise; the division of available work by the introduction of national counsel and retraining; national economic planning; steady graduated increase and distribution of the purchasing power of credit and finance production; recognition of State guarantee of the workers in the industries in which they work; a Federal agency to collect and publish data on the employment and wage-earner incomes, and to provide standards for determining economic balance; Federal licenses for corporations operating on an interstate scope, with specific requirements to maintain labor's a protective service for investors; and national economic planning with emphasis on raising standards of living for lagging groups and not at a program of limitation of production with price fixing.

K.

Kellogg Pact.—The convention expressed its determination to continue to amend the Kellogg Pact in order to make it binding on the non-signatory nations going to war, provided such plan can be developed so as to adequately protect the people of the United States.

L.

Labor Days, Special.—The convention urged that the three special Labor Days —Labor Day, the first Monday in September; Labor Sunday, the Sunday preceding Labor Day; and Labor's Memorial Day, the fourth Sunday in May —be observed in a way to add to the dignity and significance of labor in public opinion and revitalize the labor movement.

Labor, Department of.—The convention recommended that all divisions and bureaus touching labor, labor matters and labor activities in the Federal Government be brought under the Department of Labor.

Labor-Displacing Machinery. — The convention condemned the anti-social policy adopted by those who own and control industry in the wholesale introduction of labor-displacing machinery without proportionate reduction in the length of the work day and work week, thus causing millions of unemployed, for the machine is the tool of man when it is made to serve man. It becomes a menace, a veritable Frankenstein, when it is used to displace him. The true purpose of the machine is to lighten the burden of labor by enabling greater production for human needs to be accomplished in a shorter time. The convention declared that the proper application of the six-hour day and five-day week is the major remedy to put back to work the millions whom those who control industry have driven into the streets by using machines to displace them.

Labor Institutes.—The convention approved the Labor Institutes held in six cities during the last year under the sponsorship of the Workers' Education Bureau of America and urged the cooperation of the affiliated unions in the international unions. State federations of labor, city central and local bodies in the development of the institutes.

Labor Press.—The convention acknowledged the splendid work performed by the labor press and declared that labor papers should be aided in every way possible to extend their invaluable service to organized labor.

Labor Schools.—The convention referred to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor a resolution calling for the establishment and endorsement of an existing school wherein labor students might study economics that are more closely allied with his or her interests, but which are not available by other means.

Lame Duck Amendment to Federal Constitution.—The convention approved the Norris lame duck amendment to the constitution of the United States and urged every State federation of labor to secure favorable action on it by State legislatures.

Laundry Workers' International Union.—The convention directed the officials of the American Federation of Labor to cooperate with all State federations of labor, city central bodies, and A. F. of L. organizers requesting them to assist in organizing the laundry workers.

Law Enforcement.—On the ground that measures like the Sherman anti-trust law and similar State laws enacted to protect employers and unions to effect combinations and resort to activities designed for the betterment of all engaged in the industry, but "within the field of legality," the convention referred to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor a resolution calling for the "enforcement of the regardless of persons or class".

Local Unions—Affiliation with State and Central Bodies.—The convention strongly urged that national and international unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor require that their locals affiliate with central labor organizations and State federations of labor.

Local Unions—Membership.—The convention recommended that the organizers and officers and members of labor unions use every effort to build up the membership of the labor unions and urge the necessity of confining their patronage to union made goods.

M.

Monthly Survey of Business of the American Federation of Labor.—The convention declared that the Monthly Survey of Business of the American Federation of Labor is widely recognized as scientific and authentic, recommended it for the splendid service and the credit it has brought to the labor movement.

Mooney Case.—The convention again declared its belief in the innocence of Thomas J. Mooney and Warren K. Billings of the crime for which they had been convicted and suffered imprisonment and asserted that the A. F. of L. would continue all lawful means to secure their liberty; the convention recognized the executive council of the California State Federation of Labor as the properly qualified representative of the organized labor movement to work for the release of Mooney and Billings, recommended that officials of the American Federation of Labor be instructed to inform national and international unions, State federations of labor and city central bodies that no appeals for funds on behalf of the Mooney-Billings case should receive consideration unless it carries the approval of the executive council of the A. F. of L.

N.

National Defense.—The convention declared that the construction and fabrication of vessels and materials for national defense should be constructed in Government navy yards without unnecessary delay, and not in ship yards owned by private industry.

National Economic Conference.—The convention urged the convening of a national economic conference to develop in the initial steps of economic planning on a broad scale, with labor represented as a producing partner in industry and as a major social group.

Negroes in Trade Unions.—The convention reiterated its traditional policy of no discrimination against Negroes in the organized labor movement and declared that all workers, regardless of race, United States and Canada, skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled, are eligible for membership in the American Federation of Labor irrespective of creed, color, nationality, sex or politics."

Non-Partisan Political Policy.—The convention reaffirmed its position in favor of the non-partisan political policy of the American Federation of Labor and cited the results obtained in the national and congressional elections of 1932 as emphatic proof of the correctness of the policy.

O.

Old Age Security.—The convention reiterated its approval of the principle of old age security through pensions for the aged and urged the continuance of the efforts of the American Federation of Labor and its branches to secure such legislation by Federal and State laws.

P.

Pan-American Labor Relations.—The convention recommended that the representatives of the American Federation of Labor on the council of the Pan-American Federation of Labor and the officers of the American Federation of Labor continue to render every possible assistance and service to the wage-earners and their trade unions in all Pan-American countries.

Patent Law Adjustment.—The convention recommended that the executive council of the American Federation of Labor continue its study of proposed adjustments of patent laws to effect the destructive effects of automatic machinery and processes.

Peace.—The convention referred to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor for further study a proposal for Federal legislation denying the right of American citizens, except diplomatic representatives, residing in foreign countries to obtain protection from the United States Government either for their persons or property while within the jurisdiction of other nations.

Pequot Mill Products.—The convention adopted a resolution that trade unionists should apply the philosophy of co-operation by purchasing only such made products of Pequot mills as that higher wages and shorter hours may be the means to increase membership in the American Federation of Labor.

Philippines.—The convention urged the prompt enactment of legislation providing for the immediate independence of the Philippines in accordance with the declaration of all Filipinos from the United States.

Postal Savings Bank.—The convention referred to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor a proposal urging the enactment of Federal legislation "which shall enlarge the powers and duties of the postal savings banks so that they may engage in all forms of banking on a parity with private banks."

Public Schools. — The convention pledged the American Federation of Labor to conserve our public school system as necessary for the maintenance and development of our civilization and the perpetuation of our institutions. The convention condemned those strangling the schools by reduced appropriations, and specifically condemned the practices of those responsible who take the following forms: Reducing school facilities; employing inexperienced teachers; employing teachers of little training and experience at lowest salary level; increasing the teaching load; increasing the size of classes; postponing erection of the necessary and impending purchase of equipment and supplies; eliminating subject-matter, and health education, such as physical training, music, art, dramatics, kindergartens, child guidance, vocational guidance, prevocational, handicapped, etc.; eliminating free text books; eliminating top age limit of compulsory school attendance; reducing teacher tenure laws not in order to get better teachers, but in order to get cheaper teaches; eliminating sick leave pay; repealing minimum wage law; adding to the burden of the teaching staff to go to the lowest bidder; eliminating dental clinics, medical inspection and attendance officers.

Public Schools—Congressional Investigation.—The convention recommended that the officials of the American Federation of Labor urge an investigation before the next session of Congress into the public schools to public welfare, the functions they perform in our social economy, and their worth as a social institution.

Public Schools—Finances.—The convention condemned all efforts to cripple free and general education by so-called economy measures and urged the American Federation of Labor to conserve intact the public school system, and recommended that the officers of the A. F. of L. have introduced into the next Congress a resolution providing for a nation-wide investigation into school finances, the manner in ascertaining how school funds are raised, the portion paid for each branch of school work, and the portion diverted from actual school work.

Public Schools—Increased Cost.—The convention declared that the American Federation of Labor should give the strongest support to the facts that much of the increase in the cost of public school education during recent years is due to the increase in the number of pupils in the school; the higher price of food, the number of anaemic, blind, crippled and subnormal, and in many instances to the cost of medical and dental inspection, school nurses, and lunches for school children, which should be borne by other governmental bodies.

Puerto Rico.—The convention authorized the president of the American Federation of Labor to support before the President of the United States and Congress such measures as may be recommended it for the splendid service and the credit it has brought to the labor movement.

R.

Racketeering.—The convention declared that the term racketeering is a so-called racketeering within or without the labor movement, but because legitimate trade unions have been and are incorrectly described as racketeering by the unthinking public or those not friendly to the wage-earners, the convention urged that care be used in the application of the term.

Radio Advertising.—The convention instructed the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to investigate the extent of radio advertising and the feasibility of national legislation to prohibit certain kinds of advertising from radio channels.

Radio Labor Hour.—The convention endorsed the series of radio lectures on "American Labor and the Nation," given during the year under the general direction of the National Advisory Council on Radio in Education with the cooperation of the Workers' Education Bureau of America, the American Federation of Labor, and the National Broadcasting System, which contributed the use of its nationwide network without cost, approved the continuance of the radio labor undertaking, authorized the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to confer with the Executive Committee on Radio in Education in relation to the labor hour and requested the labor press to give publicity to the lectures under the heading "Labor Broadcasts."

Railway Employes.—The convention commended the railroad labor organizations on the intelligent manner in which they protect the interests of railway employes and the management, condition of the cooperation of the American Federation of Labor and the railway-employe standard railroad labor organizations in matters of mutual interest in economic and political activities, and expressed the hope that in the near future the railway employes not presently affiliated in fact as well as in the spirit of cooperation with the A. F. of L.

Right to Work.—The convention declared that the right to work is a fundamental right and stressed the American Federation of Labor's demand for the six-hour day and five-day week as the major reform for the realization of this right.

Rural Delivery Mail Service.—The convention recommended proposals to replace the rural delivery mail service on a contract basis, disapproved the extension of parcel post service, the increase in rural delivery, and instructed the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to cooperate with the National Federation of Rural Letter Carriers in any legislation proposed to protect the carriers against destructive encroachments.

S.

Safety Movement.—The convention favored the submission to Congress of legislation to require that contractors engaged in the construction of buildings for the Federal Government must conform to the laws of State in which they are operating relating to safety and the protection of accidents in the building industry.

Safety of Life at Sea.—The convention reiterated its opposition to the sales tax.

Savings Banks.—The convention referred to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor a proposal "to have formulated model safety provisions for savings banks and building and loan companies to be enacted into law by the legislatures of the various States to the end that savings banks and building and loan companies coming under State regulation may be made safe depositories for the savings of the citizens in the States in which they operate."

Seamen—Exclusion Laws.—The convention approved the application of the immigration exclusion laws to alien seamen as proposed in the King bill now before the U. S. Congress.

Share the Work Movement.—The convention declared that "labor hours must be reduced and wage rates maintained and increased, something vastly different from the spread-work movement with its pay reduction policy now urged in many quarters and which would defeat the very purpose it is proclaimed to achieve."

Sheep Shearers' Union.—The convention pledged the moral support of the American Federation of Labor to the Sheep Shearers' Union of North America in its efforts to organize the sheep shearers and advance the welfare of union's members.

Six-Hour Day.—The convention declared it to be the paramount purpose of the American Federation of Labor to secure the six-hour day and five-day week, without wage cuts, for all workers.

Spanish War Veterans—Pensions.—The convention referred to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor a resolution condemning the action of the National Economy League for seeking legislation to deprive Spanish War Veterans of pensions unless their infirmities can be proved of service origin, with instructions to take whatever action may be required to assure justice to the veterans concerned.

Summer Schools for Women Workers in Industry.—The convention commended the work done by the Affiliated Summer Schools for Women Workers in Industry typified by the Summer School for Women Workers at Bryn Mawr.

T.

Tariff.—The convention disapproved of legislation to protect the respective petroleum industry of the United States against cheaply-produced foreign oil.

Teachers' Salaries.—The convention rejected a resolution continuing the opposition of the American Federation of Labor to all reductions in teachers' salaries, whether direct or as so-called "voluntary contributions," and declared that in those instances that have been made the Federation should endeavor to bring about restoration of the previous schedule.

Thirty-Hour Week.—The convention declared that the paramount purpose of the American Federation of Labor is to secure the universal and immediate adoption of the six-hour day and five-day week without reduction in pay, and instructed the executive council of the Federation to make this demand before the Congress of the United States, the executives of the various States and the people generally and use their best judgment in securing the nation-wide adoption of the thirty-hour week principle.

Trade Unions—Benefit Services.—The convention endorsed the splendid benefit services of the trade unions, which amounted to $25,871,874 in 1931, and urged that more publicity be given to the feature of trade union work.

Trade Unions—Incorporation.—The convention renewed its opposition to trade union incorporation laws.

U.

Unemployment.—The convention declared that the State in our economic order which has produced twelve billion dollars of unemployed has the definite duty to recognize the basic principles which are its cornerstones, and that the task of the State is to bring back to work about such changes in business and governmental laws and practices as may be necessary to firmly establish conditions of life and labor that will not only make employment possible, assure a decent livelihood, and thus prevent actual hunger and want. It will also restore the dignity of labor and liberty of even the humblest person in our land.

Unemployment Insurance.—The convention favored the State fund plan of compulsory unemployment insurance with the contributions of reserves paid by employers as a part of the cost of production.

Unemployment Relief — Business Without Profit.—The convention disapproved a resolution calling for Federal legislation to promote a campaign to induce business plants now closed to resume operations on a non-profit basis.

Unemployment Relief—Federal Loans to Finance Business Without Profit.—The convention disapproved a resolution authorizing the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to make loans sufficient to finance business without commercial profit.

Unemployment Relief — Government Funds.—The convention declared that "the only cure for unemployment is employment," the convention asserted that there must be a larger use of public moneys for every governmental, local, State, and Federal, as well as private, work and relief funds. The convention also stressed the imperative necessity of a wide extension of public works, including self-liquidating projects, with the Federal, State and national credit to finance such relief and projects; the convention approved the action of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor in its endeavors to secure adequate legislation for unemployment relief in the last session of Congress and urged that the council continue its efforts in this direction during the second session of Congress.

Unemployment Relief—Large Navy.—The convention disapproved a resolution demanding as a measure to relieve unemployment the increase of the Navy to the United States to the maximum strength permissible under the London Treaty of April 22, 1930.

Unemployment Relief—Tax on Automatic Machinery.—The convention referred to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor a resolution providing national legislation to place a direct tax on all automatic machinery, the revenue therefrom to be used to relieve the unemployed.

Unemployment Relief—Trade Unionists.—The convention referred to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor a resolution to put the A. F. of L. on record as opposing the demand to relieve unemployed trade unionists to relief agencies.

Unemployed Workers—Occupational Relief.—The convention recommended that the importance of the occupational retraining of the unemployed, deprived by the general absence of such training in our public school system, recommended that the United States Office of Education make a rapid survey of what is being done and formulate a program to meet this emergency, and urged that representatives of the American Federation of Labor in every community assist the Office of Education in both the survey and the development of an adequate program.

Union Label.—The convention reiterated its support of the union label by declaring that our slogan at all times should be: Buy jobs for trade unionists by purchasing only union labeled goods and union service.

Union-Mined Coal.—The convention instructed the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to urge the members of the affiliated national and international unions to use every effort to see that the coal they consume is produced by union miners employed under agreement with the United Mine Workers of America.

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.—The convention declared against the recognition of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics by the United States Government.

Union Organization.—The convention emphasized the necessity of increased efforts to bring the unorganized workers into the trade unions.

United States Employees' Compensation Commission.—The convention instructed the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to oppose measures to merge the United States Employees' Compensation Commission with the Civil Service Commission and to do everything possible to maintain the Commission in its present status as an independent governmental agency.

United States—Navy.—The convention disapproved a resolution demanding that the United States increase and maintain the Navy in conformity with the maximum naval strength possible under the London Treaty of April 22, 1930.

United States—Public Health Service.—The convention instructed the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to endeavor to save the facilities of the U. S. Public Health Service extended to seamen on Government vessels and in the millions of marine establishments, to seamen on dredgers engaged in making harbors as aids to commerce, and to engineers and others used in improving harbors and rivers.

V.

Vocational Education and Guidance.—The convention regretted decreased Federal and State appropriations for vocational education, and urged the executive council of the American Federation of Labor and its affiliated organizations urge Congress and State legislatures to provide larger financial support for these subjects.

Volstead Act.—The convention urged "the immediate modification of the Volstead Act to permit the manufacture, transport and sale of wholesome, palatable beverages, non-intoxicating in fact."

W.

Wage Agreements.—The convention disapproved a resolution providing that the unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and non-affiliated unions be required to have their wage agreements expire on a given date.

Wages.—The convention declared that the struggle for the six hours of labor for the six-hour day and five-day week should not result in no reduction in pay, but on the contrary wages should be maintained and steadily increased with the expansion of productive efficiency.

Webb-Kenyon Act—Liquor Traffic Regulation.—The convention urged the modification of the Webb-Kenyon Act so as to give adequate protection to all States which determine the manufacture beverages of lesser alcoholic content than 2.75 per cent as provided in the Volstead Act, and endorsed by the American Federation of Labor.

Women—Employment.—The convention instructed the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to petition Congress to enact legislation to prohibit the United States Government and its branches from purchasing goods for Government use where the articles are produced in whole or in the manufacture of goods after 6 p. m. before 6 a. m., or more than 48 hours in any week, or where women and children are employed below a wage scale which provides decency and comfort.

Women — Employment — Hours.—The convention instructed the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to investigate the possibility of legislation to be submitted to the next Webb-Kenyon law to secure a shorter work week for women in industry.

Workers' Education Bureau of America.—The convention approved the activities of the Workers' Education Bureau in the field of adult education with special emphasis on its activities in the establishment of labor institutes, radio broadcasts on labor subjects, and its stimulus to workers education in general.

Workmen's Compensation Insurance — District of Columbia.—The convention recommended the adoption of legislation by the Congress of the United States providing that the workmen's compensation fund in the District of Columbia shall be administered exclusively by the Government of the District for all business arising within the District.

Workmen's Compensation Insurance — Federal Plan.—The convention reaffirmed its approval of the exclusive Federal plan for workmen's compensation and reiterated declared that with the proposal of private insurance companies to enter the field of compensation insurance the present is an opportune time for State federations of labor to urge the State fund plan where it is not now in effect, and instructed the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to initiate a militant campaign with all labor bodies to secure its establishment.

Indian Rail Union Has Surplus Labor Problem

Madras, India.—The management of the M. & S. M. railway, the Southern Indian Employees' Union that on completion of the remodelling of works, which employ nearly 160 workers, the question of discharge of the surplus staff would have to be considered, declared in its annual report of the All-India Railwaymen's Federation.

"Two alternatives have been placed before the union and the staff for consideration," the report said.

"The first alternative seeks to reduce the surplus by the method of retrenchment, that is, discharge of the surplus employes. The second alternative is to first discharge 66 employes for whom about 47 vacancies in other departments have been offered, and then to consider the introduction of short time or leave by rotation to absorb a maximum of 20 per cent surplus.

"It is stated that if leave by rotation is favored by the Railway Employes' Union and the staff the arrangement would continue only as a temporary measure for one year."

CORRECTION

In the December 2, 1932, issue of the American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service, the article headed "Jobless Insurance Gets AFL Support" contained the following sentence: "Benefits not to exceed $15 a week would be paid jobless workers after three weeks of idleness." The sentence should read: "Benefits not to exceed $15 a week would be paid jobless workers after three weeks of idleness."